

Y. M. C. A. DRIVE IN FULL SWING

Committees Start Today to Raise Baxter Springs Portion of War Ser- vice Fund

Friends, Americans, Countrymen! This is not a Marc Anthony oration, but it is intended to be fully as serious an appeal to the sober, unselfish thought of the readers of the News.

You are going to be called upon still another time to give, to give some of what you have been permitted to accumulate under the protection of our government, for the perpetuation of our government and its principles of Democracy.

A great drive is on this week, a drive almost equal to that of the Red Cross which has just been completed. We refer to the nation-wide campaign on this week to raise \$35,000,000 for Young Men's Christian Association war work in behalf of the United States troops while still at home and after they have gone to the front.

The state of Kansas' proportion to this fund is \$525,000, that of Cherokee county \$9,000 and Baxter Springs about \$1,600.

Yes, of course, you have had a lot of calls on you recently for help.

Of course, you have given all you can afford this year. We all have. And your spare money is all tied up in Liberty Bonds? Of course. Fine investment. Safest in the world. Netting you 4 per cent.

But there are more than a million men who have put not only their whole earning capacity, but their lives as well, at the service of the government—which means at your service. They are doing their job as well as your own.

Have you done anything to compare to what they have done? Well, then, come across for the Y. M. C. A. and Y. M. C. A. campaign! Money is little enough. You can spare it without hurting you. Surely you don't expect to accumulate money while this war is going on?

The American Red Cross society is doing a noble work of incalculable value in saving lives and relieving suffering and distress among the troops and non-combatants in the great world war; but their work is no less noble or valuable than the activities of the Y. M. C. A., though the two organizations work along different lines.

What the Red Cross is doing to conserve the physical strength of our nation, the Y. M. C. A. is doing in a spiritual way. It is well that we should look carefully to the work of returning home physically sound as many as possible of our boys sent across the ocean to fight our battles for us, but who can say that in the end it is not more important that our boys should return to us morally sound? And for them to be morally sound in most cases means that they will remain physically sound also, since it has been shown that the social evils that corrupt the soldiers put more men out of action than do the bullets and shells.

Most important and pressing of all is the Association's opportunity of serving our own American troops at home and abroad—to afford them wholesome recreation, opportunity for study, religious guidance, substitutes for home life, and other manifold comforts and necessities. This is the service President Wilson, Secretary of War Baker and Secretary of Navy Daniels look to the Association to render.

For every one of these men life has been turned topsy-turvy. Old habits, old friends have been left behind. Many social influences of restraint have ceased to operate.

In so far as it is humanly possible the new lives of these soldiers must be rationalized. Something of the steady influences of home must be maintained. In short, the break between the old normal life and the strange new soldier's life must be tactfully bridged.

The Y. M. C. A. program is designed to do just this thing for our boys from the time they enlist right up to the firing line—for they must die clean or come back straight; if the yearnings of hundreds of thousands of homes are to be realized.

In the 500 Association quarters, whether there be the commodious

buildings erected in permanent encampments or the temporary accommodations set up in tents, cellars, shacks, or trench dugouts, the men find that "somebody cares."

At the sign of the Red Triangle our boys enjoy refined entertainments, clever motion pictures, writing letters to loved ones, reading, lounging, playing games, using talking machine and piano, attending religious meetings, educational groups, and the spirit of friendliness that always prevails.

To provide these few touches of home, whatever be the money cost of doing so, is in reality an insignificant service compared to the sacrifice these men are making for us.

No one of us should shirk his responsibility in this hour of need; let us respond like true patriots to the call of the Y. M. C. A.

OLD RESIDENT DEAD

Alexander Stephens (colored), age 71 years who has lived in Baxter for 41 years, died last Wednesday; dropsy being the cause of his death. Although Mr. Stephens had been bothered with this complaint for some time, he had been confined to his bed only about five days before his death. The deceased was the father of eight children. Funeral services will be held either Friday or Saturday of this week.

INSPECTING PAV- ING MATERIALS

Committee of Baxter Men Go to Joplin and Kan- sas City to See Pav- ing, Get Advice

The most suitable paving material to be used on the streets of Baxter Springs will be determined by a committee of councilmen and citizens who have spent the fore part of the present week on a junketing trip of inspection. The gentlemen left here Monday night and stopped at Joplin where they studied the paving question from the angle of the experience of that city. From there they went to Kansas City and went into all the phases of the question with paving experts.

The committee was made up of Councilmen Terrence Connor and Burt Shields, Engineer A. C. Moore of Joplin, who is in the employ of the city on the sewer and paving work, and C. L. Mariner, the new secretary of the Chamber of Commerce.

The committee will be ready to report at the next meeting of the city council. It is the purpose of the council to push the matter of street paving as fast as possible, doing the work on Military street at the same time that the street railway tract is laid, so as to avoid having the street torn up but once.

MRS. FRED HALL AC- CIDENTALLY KILLED

Mrs. Fred Hall, wife of the cashier of the Baxter National Bank, met with a tragic death last Saturday at the family home in Fulton, Kan. She was ironing clothes and using a flat iron that was made to burn alcohol, but having none she attempted to use gasoline instead. An explosion followed. The flames ignited the garments of Mrs. Hall, and although she brought neighbors to her assistance by her screams, her clothes were burned almost entirely from her body and the death resulted a few hours later, at 7:00 o'clock Saturday evening.

The funeral was held at the home in Fulton, Kansas, Tuesday, November 13th, at 2:30 o'clock, and was conducted by the Presbyterian minister of that place. That Mrs. Hall was highly esteemed by her fellow-townsmen is shown by the fact that every business house in Fulton, including the post office, was closed for the funeral. Mrs. L. D. Brewster, Mrs. Susan Allison, W. B. Waugh and A. R. Kane of this place attended the services.

Tuesday, November 13, was the thirteenth anniversary of the date that Bagdassar K. Baghdigian landed in America from Armenia, with 97 cents in his pocket and not the slightest idea of what America was like. He remarked that he had largely incensed his store of information about America since then but after celebrating the event he was no longer burdened with the 97 cents.

ALAS! 'TIS TRUE.

Do you ever think, dear reader, as you scan this worthy sheet, Of the hustling that it takes to make the bloomin' thing complete? Of the flurries and the worries, as the cub reporter hurries In a vain attempt to find out everything along his "beat"?

So, just thank your lucky stars, my friends, that peaceful is your lot; That you are not compelled to know just "Who is Who, and What." We're not lying, it is trying, and a source of pain undying, We will fight the "blitherin' idjit" who may say that it is not.

When at last this mortal coil we've shifted from our weary soul, If we find there's news is Heaven, ere we give St. Pete his toll, Smiling sweetly, bowing neatly, we shall leave his realm completely For we'd rather spend Eternity in Hades, shoveling coal.

—Offa Gann.

\$40,000 CHURCH FOR BAXTER

Methodists Fully Determined to Provide for Fu- ture in New Church Edifice—New Site

At the meeting of the trustees of the Methodist church last Tuesday night, it was decided to build a church property, consisting of church and parsonage, to cost not less than \$40,000. Events have moved along very rapidly since the burning of the Methodist church a short time ago. The insurance adjuster was on the ground just four days after the fire, and a very satisfactory adjustment was made in a few hours. Since that time the board of trustees have met frequently, and all possible effort has been put forth in order to get plans under way for the new church in the shortest possible time.

The new church will not be on the site occupied by the building that was burned, and owing to the fact that several sites are up for consideration it has not been fully decided which one will be used.

As soon as the final plans for the new edifice have been completed, subscription lists will be circulated, and in that give every one in the city a chance to participate in the building of a church of which any town might well be proud, and which will reflect credit to the entire community.

RED CROSS DANCING PARTY

Regularly every Friday night in the Goodale hall, dances will be given for the benefit of the local Red Cross work room. Verbal invitations will be given.

DRILL CUTTINGS

The Aurora Mining Co., is sinking a shaft on a 7½ acre lease adjoining and is already into the ore. A car load of new machinery is on the ground and the first unit of a sectional mill will be started soon.

The O. B. Rose Mining Company, of Oklahoma City, is getting ready to operate on its lease on the Vallier property south of Baxter. O. B. Miller of Oklahoma City, is the resident Manager of this property.

On the Dardeene land south of Baxter a few miles the Big Bend Mining company is sinking a shaft. At 78 feet they are in good ore which was encountered at 72 feet, Dr. J. S. Pine is president of this company and J. R. Green, superintendent.

On the Eli Kane land, adjoining Baxter on the west, the operators are now down 65 feet with their shaft and the ore is growing richer every foot. It is reliably reported that it runs around 35 per cent jack. They have their boiler set up and bricked in and expect to begin work on their mill very soon.

A. D. Hickel and Sam Ellis have bought the lease on 12 acres of the Chas. Quapaw Blackhawk land three miles south of Baxter from W. H. Berry and A. L. Arnold, paying a substantial bonus and 15 per cent royalty. Seven holes have been drilled on this tract and all but one showed good runs of ore at an average depth of 52 feet. Down to 65 feet it averages very high, from 65 to 90 good and then gradually peters out. The company will continue drilling for about 60 days and then sink a shaft.

According to a reliable report The Empire district has closed contracts to run electric service to four differ-

GRANTHAM'S HOST TO MUSIC LOVERS

Will Bring Famous Artists Here as Opening Feat- ure for His New Store

J. W. Grantham has been receiving pianos and Edison phonographs by the car load the past week and arranging them in his new music store, opposite his former place of business.

Next week he will celebrate his opening by giving the music loving people of Baxter Springs and vicinity a rare treat in the nature of a song and violin recital by two artists of nation wide popularity, Miss Merle Alcock, contralto, assisted by Miss Grace Freeman, violinist.

Owing to the crowded condition of his store room after placing the many new instruments on the floor, Mr. Grantham has arranged to give this recital in the Library Theatre and the date has been set for next Thursday evening, November 22.

No admission fee will be charged. The people will go as Mr. Grantham's guests, but in order to gain admittance Mr. Grantham requests that tickets be called for at his store at any time between today and the day of the recital.

All music lovers are aware of the high place that Miss Alcock holds among concert singers. Her appearance always attract the most cultured audiences, as she has a voice of rare and beautiful quality and a most attractive personality. Her coming here promises to be one of the foremost musical events of the season and it is already the subject of general discussion in musical circles.

ent mills soon to be built all within one-half to two miles of Baxter. The new mills will be on the properties of R. F. Hartley, E. J. Wyatt, Carl Ebenstein and L. D. Brewster. The information also is that the Empire people will put in a sub station in the west end of town and run another high power wire in from their generating plant.

The Melrose Mining company, which recently completed a 350 ton mill five miles southwest of Baxter has started operations on a 200 ton basis. The second shaft has also been started.

Ore was struck in the first shaft at 140 feet and continued good to 180 feet, when they went through five feet of shell and then into ore again from 185 to 206 feet. The new mill is under steam power with one engine in the mill and another in the sludge room. A 900 foot compressor is in use. The officers of this company are E. E. Richards, H. F. Tighe and H. B. Lappy, all of Kansas City. It is capitalized at \$200,000 and has control of 40 acres belonging to Sam Douthit. Twenty-eight to thirty holes were drilled, about half proving blank. The ore assayed from 6 to 23 per cent, with an average of about 6 per cent recovery. Fourteen cars were turned out last week.

Mrs. Mary Emiline Godfrey, aged 88 years, died at the home of her son, J. C. Godfrey, in this city on November 13, at 8:20 p. m. The body was taken to Horton, Mo. for burial and the funeral will be held today at 1 o'clock.

W. P. Howard stated that the sale of lots in his Riverside addition was quite successful. Buyers were here from four states and over half of the lots were sold.

L. D. Brewster is down in Texas on a hunting trip with a party of Joplin men.

A DAIRY FOR BAXTER

J. M. Lamb, who occupies the Gov. Crawford farm, just across the river east of the city, has started a dairy, the first institution of that kind here. He will begin Monday to deliver milk to city customers and as soon as possible will extend his business to include other dairy products. He has a fine herd of mostly Jersey cows and will run his stables according to the health laws of the state. His price for milk will be 10 cents a quart. The farm, which has 500 acres, lies along the bottoms of the river and affords excellent pasturage. A more suitable place for a dairy could hardly be found.

NEW PICTURE HOUSE

Messrs. Tindale and Margruder, owners of the Elite picture show in Iola, Kansas, and the Starr theatre in Cherryvale, have rented the Grantham building which was formerly occupied by the Cozy theatre. This place will be open for business in a very short time. The building is being remodeled, and will be up-to-date in every respect. The new theatre is to be called the Elite.

WRETCHED SERVICE IN FREIGHT DEPOT

Frisco Business Increases By 600 per cent, Yet No In- crease In Help—Condi- tion Getting Acute

The freight condition in Baxter Springs is getting very acute. In spite of the wonderful growth of the freight business the Frisco company is still maintaining, practically, the same force as it used before the increase began.

"The story of the freight condition is a simple one," stated a Baxter business man today. "Yesterday twenty cars arrived in the city and there were only three men to check and unload them," continued this man. "This is the work of from 10 to 12 men, but so far the Frisco Railroad company has made no provision to relieve this condition."

The monthly freight account ran between \$4000 and \$5000 a month prior to the boom. Last month it went up near the \$30,000 mark and yet the same crew that was handling the freight then is doing the work now. There is an agitation on foot to remonstrate to the railroad company for the purpose of getting better service. It is stated that it is almost impossible to get the freight out of the cars now as soon as it arrives. One man went into the car yesterday and opened his box of goods there and took out some of the things which he needed so badly that he could not wait.

UNCLAIMED LETTERS

Remaining in the postoffice at Baxter Springs, Kansas, for the week ending November 14th, 1917:

G. M. Hardwick; Mrs. Geo. Graham; Josie Ingram; R. E. Hindman; Adelaide Brewer; B. Martin; Mrs. Gladys Engles Davis; Mrs. Kittie Mann; Mrs. Maggie Johnson; Mrs. Lillie Johnson; Elza Wheeler; Walter Westwood; W. M. Williams; Blanche Wilson; Henry Draper; Carl L. Free; Jos. W. Elsey; T. C. Russell; Ruby Tindell; Lee Morrow; Mrs. Francis Hartley; John Chub; Lock's Transfer Co.; Farnum Transfer Co.; Pomona Rank; A. R. Morrison; Glenn E. Prickett; Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Lewis; Miss Bertha E. Honeycutt; John Kanaster; Tom Hendrickson; W. B. Sampson; Drew; J. C. Berry; Thelma Hesterly; Ernest Griffin; A. C. Jarvis; Josie Giffith; Mrs. Orval Cook; Frank Howe and W. H. Huskey.

Persons calling for any of the above letters will please say "Advertised," giving date of list.

CHAS. L. SMITH, P. M.

SHOWING OF CORSETS

Mrs. Vina Shafer, demonstrator and sales agent for the Gossard corset, will be in Baxter again next Saturday, at the store of Ray Van Horn on South Military street, with a full line of samples.

W. H. Sheaf of this city was called to Galena Sunday by the death of his mother. The burial took place on Tuesday.

CITY MANAGER MEANS PROGRESS

Places Public Business in Hands of Trained Man Who Devotes Entire Time to Work

A movement is on foot to secure for Baxter Springs the adoption of what is known as the City-Manager Commission form of city government.

The first step necessary to bring this about is the preparation of a petition to be presented to the City Council requesting that body to call an election to give the electors of the city a chance to vote on the question. The law requires that the petition must be signed by at least 25 per cent of the number of electors who voted for mayor at the last election.

A committee has taken that matter in hand and has already secured the necessary signers. A few weeks ago a similar petition was circulated and presented to the council, but it was not acted on because the petition did not bear the signatures of a sufficient number of voters who were properly registered. Before the present petition is presented it will be seen that all signers are registered.

The Baxter Springs News, along with a great many other believers in progressive measures, is taking an active part in getting this City Manager-Commission proposition before the people of Baxter Springs. We are doing so, not because we have anything against the mayor of this city or any member of the present city council. Far from it. Personally, we hold every member of the city administration in high regard, and under a more effective system of city government, like the city manager plan has proven to be elsewhere, the gentlemen now composing the council would serve the city just as well as any body of men the voters might select.

Merely passing ordinances does not efficiently govern a town. That is why the city is at present in a more filthy condition, if possible than it was last spring when the council passed the much talked about but never enforced sanitary ordinance. That is why the ordinance requiring people to get rid of the weeds was not worth as much as the paper upon which it was drafted, because it was never enforced in a single instance. That is why numerous other examples of bad government might be cited if need be.

No ordinance is of any account unless it is enforced, and who under the present system of city government is going to enforce our ordinances? Who can you select for mayor, for instance, who will be willing to neglect his private business and put in all his time looking after the city's interest? No one ever did it in the past, either in Baxter Springs or any other town, and no one will be found in the future who will be so self-sacrificing.

And, let us urge, public business will no more run itself than any other business. Who would think of turning over his private business to be run in a manner like the average town is run.

A competent city manager, whose entire time is given to the work, will more than save his salary every year, not to mention the satisfaction it will give the people to have all the little and big needs of the city looked after. If there is a bad spot in the side walks the city manager will attend to having it fixed, and possibly avoid a law suit or a payment of damages.

A city manager would see that the weeds were kept down; that the paper and refuse was kept off our streets; would get after people and make them keep their back yards clean, thereby guarding against destructive fires and epidemics due to flies.

A city manager would do lots of things that ought to be done, but are not done now, and for that matter never have been done; and under the city manager plan we would soon have a city that all of us would enjoy and appreciate, and instead of being an "awful example" we would become a model town and our fame would spread from coast to coast.

This is no idle dream. It is a fact that already has been demonstrated in a number of cities. Next week the News will publish the experience of towns under the city manager plan of government.